

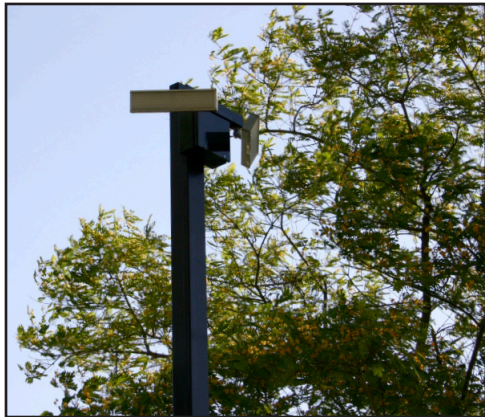
# SahuarO Weekly Update

*"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."*



Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona

June 6, 2008



**Glendale's Hidden Meadows Park Goes Solar.** Glendale's Hidden Meadows Park received much needed security lighting using a system not yet utilized in Glendale's parks before—solar.

In 1994 the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department developed Hidden Meadows Park, 76th and St. John avenues, as a community park with playground equipment and picnic tables and ramadas. At the time of construction, lighting was not included, but over the past several years city staff received requests from nearby residents for lighting to enhance activity visibility and help deter vandalism.

Parks staff visited several local sites where solar lighting had been installed and a decision was made, supported by Councilmember Steven Frate, to try a solar power lighting system. The system is not only energy conserving, but was also a substantial cost savings. The two ramadas; the walkway system, which includes motion sensors that are active after 10 p.m. until dawn; and both of the playground features received lighting systems.

Park rangers and police can now see into the park during their evening patrols, and park users may use the park into the evening hours with the help of Arizona's wonderful sunny days.



**Neighborhood Improvement Grants.** The city of Glendale recently approved eight grants totaling \$359,478, which will assist residents with improvements to their neighborhoods. Residents who live in neighborhoods that are at least 15 years old may apply for the improvement grants, which are awarded twice a year.

As part of its commitment to revitalizing and preserving older neighborhoods, the City Council established the Citizens' Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods to make funding recommendations on neighborhood improvement grant requests and to provide feedback on policies, strategies and programs relating to neighborhoods. The commission's recommendations support the Council's strategic goal of one community with strong neighborhoods.

The Commission reviewed eight neighborhood grant requests, which were then approved by the Mayor and City Council.

Three of these neighborhoods are **in the SahuarO District.**

- **Northern Manor West II HOA** – The commission voted to recommend this neighborhood's grant request to be used for internal street improvements.
- **Thunderbird Palms Neighborhood** – The commission voted to recommend this neighborhood's request to install a new tot lot with safety surfacing and a beginner skateboard area in Sunset Palms Park. This project is being completed in collaboration with the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department, which will provide construction and administrative services.
- **Thunderbird Acres Unit #1** – The commission also voted to recommend this neighborhood's grant request for the removal and replacement of their driveway aprons located in the undedicated right-of-way area of their neighborhood.

For more information on the Neighborhood Grants Program, [click here](#) or call the Neighborhood Partnership Office at 623-930-2868.

## NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT SUCCESS STORY

### Tierra Buena Park Association

**Project.** Neighbors living near Tierra Buena Park, 57th Avenue and Tierra Buena Lane, have a newly renovated park, as the result of two neighborhood grants. The first grant provided upgrades to the park, including a shade structure, two picnic tables and playground equipment. The second grant paid for a rubberized surface on the playground, which will enhance safety and greater access for those who are disabled.

**Glendale Avenue Corridor Redevelopment Kickoff Celebration.** Please join us at 8 a.m. on June 9 for the Kickoff Celebration for the Glendale Avenue Corridor Redevelopment. The celebration will be held at the former Larry Miller Toyota building at 47th and Glendale Avenues where demolition of the old dealership is set to begin at the future sight of the City Court Complex.

**Elderly Mobile Sign Project.** Drivers will see bigger and better signs along 59th Avenue from Greenway to Cactus and on Thunderbird Road from 51st to 67th avenues. And further north, new signs will be featured on 67th Avenue from Loop 101 to Bell Road and on Union Hills from 59th to 75th avenues.

The street name sign program was designed to assist elderly drivers and pedestrians to identify the name of the street more easily. One of the key factors in determining the location of the new street name signs was selecting streets in proximity to hospitals in Glendale. The \$19,404 grant was issued through the Maricopa Association of Governments. In addition to increasing the size of the signs, the placement of the street name signs are being positioned differently. Street name signs are traditionally placed on top of a stop sign at the street intersection, but the new signs are being attached to the street light pole prior to the actual street.

The replacement signs are 40 percent larger than the existing ones. About 90 signs at 40 intersections will be installed in the next few months. For more information, visit <http://www.glendaleaz.com/transportation>.

## Around Town

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**Film/Discussion Series Highlights Oscar-winning Movies.** Film scholar Jeannie Berg, an instructor at both Glendale and Scottsdale Community Colleges, is back for a third year to lead free viewings and discussions about award-winning films from the 1930s to the present at Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. The cinema screenings are at 1 p.m., starting June 7 and continuing on consecutive Saturdays through July 26. The first film in the series, on June 7, will be "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" (1939). [Click here](#) or call (623) 930-3844 for more information.

**Ride, Rock and Roll.** Ride into summer the extreme way at the city of Glendale's first Ride, Rock & Roll event, Saturday, June 14, from 6:30 to 9 pm. at [Glendale's X-Court](#), located on the northeast corner of 83rd Avenue and Bethany Home Road.

The city of Glendale's Transportation, Utilities and Parks and Recreation departments partnered with Radio Disney to offer residents the chance to watch cool BMX freestyle and skateboarding demonstrations, while participating in a "Flip Your Lid" Helmet Design contest, bike parade and bike beauty pageant, as part of the Travel Green initiative. The city created this first-ever event to promote bike and extreme sports safety, as well as to showcase the park's versatility. For more information, call (623) 930-2820.

**Free CCC-CPR Class.** Learn Continuous Chest Compression CPR on Wednesday, June 18 from 7-9 p.m. at Glendale City Council Chambers, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. Classes are held once a month at various locations throughout Glendale. To reserve a spot or learn more about CCC-CPR, [click here](#).

**2008 Neighborhood Leadership Forum.** Glendale's Citizens Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods will host its annual Leadership Forum and Spark Awards on Saturday, June 28 from 8 to 11: 30 a.m. at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive.

The breakfast event is free and open to all Glendale residents, neighborhood leaders, community volunteers and business owners. [Click here](#) to read more in the news release.

**Glendale's 4th of July Celebration.** Get fired up for 4th of July fun! Celebrate America's birthday in style at Glendale's 4th of July Celebration at Glendale Community College with hot dogs, water slides, music and fireworks. For more information, call the Special Events Hotline at (623) 930-2299, or visit [www.glendaleaz.com/events](http://www.glendaleaz.com/events). Glendale Community College is located at 6000 W. Olive Ave.

**2nd Annual World Records Day.** What in the WORLD is happening on July 26? Breaking records! Do you have what it takes to break a Guinness World Record? Give it your best shot at the Foothills Recreation & Aquatics Center's 2nd World Records Day on Saturday, July 26 at 10 a.m. This event will showcase a variety of established world records that are just waiting to be broken! This free event will be held in the Coyote Room at the center, located at 5600 W. Union Hills Dr. For more information, call (623) 930-4610.

[Click here](#) for the City Council Meeting schedule.

**Contact Councilmember Frate**

**Council Office: (623) 930-2249**

**Home Office: (602) 439-8151**

**E-mail: [sfrate@glendaleaz.com](mailto:sfrate@glendaleaz.com)**